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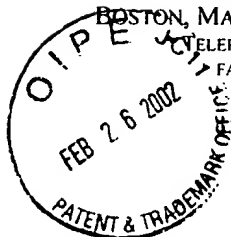
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COPY OF PAPERS
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February 13, 2002

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Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/854,197
*A System and Method For The Configuration, Repair And Protection
of Virtual Ring Networks*
Inventors: Richard A. Thompson et al.
Filed: May 11, 2001
Our Ref. No.: SYCS-005

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MAR 04 2002

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449;
3. Copies of references cited in PTO Form 1449; and
4. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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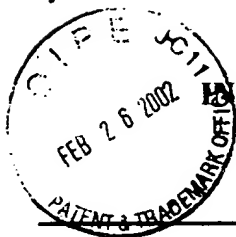
John S. Curran

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Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

John S. Curran

John S. Curran
Registration No. P50,445
Attorney for Applicants



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Richard A. Thompson et al.

Serial No.: 09/854,197

Filed: May 11, 2001

For: *A System and Method For The Configuration,
Repair And Protection of Virtual Ring Networks*

Attorney Docket No.: SYCS-005

Group Art Unit: 2661

Examiner:

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By:

John S. Curran
John S. Curran
Registration No. P50,445
Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

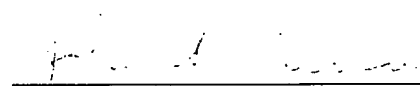
Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A copy of each cited publication is enclosed.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP



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Enclosures

